United Nations S/PV.3556

Security Council

Fiftieth Year

Provisional

3556th Meeting

Thursday, 20 July 1995, 6 p.m.

New York

President:	Mr. Martínez Blanco	(Honduras)
Members:	Argentina	Mr. Cárdenas
	Botswana	Mr. Malebeswa
	China	Mr. He Yafei
	Czech Republic	Mr. Rovensky
	France	Mr. Thiebaud
	Germany	Mr. Eitel
	Indonesia	Mr. Wisnumurti
	Italy	Mr. Menzione
	Nigeria	Mr. Gambari
	Oman	Mr. Al-Khussaiby
	Russian Federation	Mr. Sidorov
	Rwanda	Mr. Ubalijoro
	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	Mr. Plumbly
	United States of America	Mrs. Albright

Agenda

The situation in the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina

Letter dated 17 July 1995 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Bosnia and Herzegovina to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/1995/582)

95-85771 (E)

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The meeting was called to order at 6.05 p.m.

Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted.

The situation in the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina

Letter dated 17 July 1995 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Bosnia and Herzegovina to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/1995/582)

The President (*interpretation from Spanish*): I should like to inform the Council that I have received a letter from the representative of Bosnia and Herzegovina, in which he requests to be invited to participate in the discussion of the item on the Council's agenda. In conformity with the usual practice, I propose, with the consent of the Council, to invite that representative to participate in the discussion without the right to vote, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Charter and rule 37 of the Council's provisional rules of procedure.

There being no objection, it is so decided.

At the invitation of the President, Mr. Misić (Bosnia and Herzegovina) took a place at the Council table.

The President (*interpretation from Spanish*): The Security Council will now begin its consideration of the item on its agenda. The Security Council is meeting in response to the request contained in a letter dated 17 July 1995 from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Bosnia and Herzegovina addressed to the President of the Security Council, transmitted by a letter of the same date from the Chargé d'affaires *ad interim* of the Permanent Mission of Bosnia and Herzegovina to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council, document S/1995/582.

I should like to draw the attention of the members of the Council to the following documents: S/1995/576, letter dated 14 July 1995 from the Chargé d'affaires *ad interim* of the Permanent Mission of Bosnia and Herzegovina to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General; S/1995/577, letter dated 14 July 1995 from the Chargé d'affaires *ad interim* of the Permanent Mission of Ukraine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General; S/1995/579, letter dated 14 July 1995 from the Chargé d'affaires *ad interim* of the Permanent Mission of Bosnia and Herzegovina to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council; S/1995/581, letter dated 14 July 1995 from the Permanent Representative of Iraq to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council, transmitting, in his capacity as Chairman of the Group of Arab States for July 1995, the declaration issued by the Group of Arab States at its meeting of 14 July 1995; S/1995/583, letter dated 17 July 1995 from the Permanent Representative of Hungary to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the text of a statement by the Chairman-in-Office of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe concerning the situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina; S/1995/584, letter dated 17 July 1995 from the Permanent Representative of Malaysia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General; S/1995/589, letter dated 18 July 1995 from the Permanent Representative of Egypt to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council; S/1995/590, letter dated 17 July 1995 from the Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General; and S/1995/598, letter dated 19 July 1995 from the Chargé d'affaires *ad interim* of the Permanent Mission of Jordan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General.

Following consultations among members of the Security Council, I have been authorized to make the following statement on behalf of the Council:

"The Security Council, recalling its previous resolutions, is deeply concerned by the situation in and around the safe area of Zepa. It condemns in the strongest possible terms the offensive by the Bosnian Serb forces against that safe area. The Security Council is also concerned in particular at the plight of the civilian population there.

"The Security Council attaches the utmost importance to the safety and well-being of the civilian population in Zepa. It demands that the Bosnian Serb forces refrain from any further action that threatens the safety of that population, and that they respect fully the rights of the civilian population and other persons protected under international humanitarian law. The Council reaffirms its condemnation of all violations of international humanitarian law, and reiterates to all concerned that those who have committed or ordered the commission of such acts will be held individually responsible in respect of such acts. It

reminds the military and political leaders of the Bosnian Serb party that this responsibility extends to any such acts committed by forces under their command.

"The Security Council underlines the importance it attaches to the fullest cooperation with UNHCR and other international humanitarian organizations, and demands that they be given unhindered freedom of movement and access to that area. It further demands that the Bosnian Serb authorities cooperate with all efforts, including those of UNPROFOR, to ensure the safety of the civilian population, and in particular its most vulnerable members, including evacuation as requested by the Foreign Minister of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina in his letter of 17 July 1995 (S/1995/582, annex).

"The Security Council strongly condemns the recent acts of violence and intimidation which have occurred against the personnel of UNPROFOR. It demands that both parties ensure the safety and freedom of movement of UNPROFOR personnel at all times."

This statement will be issued as a document of the Security Council under the symbol S/PRST/1995/33.

The Security Council has thus concluded the present stage of its consideration of the item on its agenda.

The Security Council will remain seized of the matter.

The meeting rose at 6.20 p.m.